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## BRITISH FOREIGN OFFICE UPHOLDS BLACKLIST RIGHT

Is American Firm Strengthening Allies' Enemies? Test Applied.

### AMBASSADOR PAGE BEGINS AN INQUIRY

Gathers Information in London for Use of the State Department.

London, July 22.—Walter Hines Page, American Ambassador, said today that he was fully alive to the possibility of trouble arising from the publication of the statutory blacklist of American firms. He has already approached the Foreign Office with inquiries on the subject.

The embassy is collecting all available information regarding the matter for transmission to the State Department.

In reply to criticisms which the publication of the list of eighty-seven American individuals and firms with which English firms are forbidden to do business under the Trading with the Enemy act, has met with in America and here, Laming Worthington Evans, Chief of the Department of Foreign Trade of the Foreign Office, made the following statement today:

"The statutory list has been compiled from one point of view only, namely, to prohibit British citizens from supporting firms which are strengthening our enemies. The test applied before putting a firm demarcated in America on the statutory list is this: Is that firm by its business operations strengthening our enemies? If so, then British firms may not support it."

#### Lesson of World War.

"It is one of the principal lessons of the world war that the strength of a belligerent does not consist only in the resources and supplies available in its own territories, but also on those upon which it can draw from neutral countries. As a result of the semi-military organization which the German government has imposed on its commerce, every German firm throughout the world is an outpost, seeking to do its utmost to assist Germany in her efforts to dominate Europe, and the fact that they are established in neutral countries in many cases makes them more formidable and their activities less easy to combat than would otherwise be the case."

"Can it then be said fairly that when the British government is fully aware of these activities it should do nothing to frustrate them? Can it be claimed fairly that, instead of endeavoring to frustrate them, they should be actually assisted by British firms, British cables, British banks and British shipping lines?"

"It is true that the trade done by British firms with German firms in neutral countries has attained very considerable proportions, and to cut off this trade by means of the statutory blacklist meant a certain amount of inevitable loss."

**Says Sacrifice Is Necessary.**  
"But the government considered that the loss of British trade would be much less than the loss caused to the enemy, and, besides that, the sacrifice involved is necessary in the interests of the Allies."

"It may be pointed out that long before the British statutory blacklist was put in operation the French government prohibited its nationals from doing any business with any enemy subject. It can hardly be contended that the statutory blacklist is more onerous to trade than the French system, which long since was recognized by international law."

"Moreover, from strictly legal points of view, the blacklist system is a piece of purely domestic legislation, which simply prohibits British subjects from dealing with certain persons. The right of any government to impose such prohibition on its own nationals is hardly open to dispute."

"Objection has been taken to the unpublished publicity given the list, but more damage would be likely to result to trade before the adoption of the statutory blacklist than there was an unofficial blacklist in existence. Experience has shown that uncertainty on the part of both British and neutral traders as to who

is and who is not on the blacklist would be far more injurious to commerce than the publication of the blacklist, which has been a matter of knowledge to all who are in the market for some time."

#### List Posted in Board Rooms.

"In addition to its official publication in the London 'Gazette,' it appears in the Board of Trade Journal and the Chamber of Commerce and Trade Association. Individual firms can keep themselves posted with up to date knowledge by obtaining a list regularly from bookkeepers."

"Complaint is made that the statutory list is unnecessary, as the same results might have been obtained otherwise. But if so done, it would have affected not merely the firms in the United States which now figure in the statutory list, but also others—probably all those of German names, whether they deserved it or not—because British traders, to whom alone our prohibition is addressed, would know the names of the prohibited firms and might, out of caution, have ceased dealing with a much larger number."

"In trade matters nothing interferes with business so much as uncertainty, and it was to avoid this general interference that the policy of prohibition with the firms listed was adopted."

#### Denies Action Is Blunder.

"It has been said that it was a blunder to publish the list when a French loan was under way. Clearly it would have been a blunder to include the names of our French allies. But it is suggested that this blunder has been committed? Look at the list. Who are included? Is there one among them who has not shown in unmistakable measure that his sympathies, and more still, his active help, are given, not to our French allies and ourselves, but to our enemies?"

"It is pointed out only those who have shown unmistakably that they are enemies, or acting for enemies, who are included. So we need not fear that the support of our French allies will be prejudiced in those quarters."

"It is suggested that publicity in the London 'Gazette' was insufficient. The press of the United States has given all the publicity needed in the United States and in every other country. We find, in fact, that the local press always reproduces lists, so there need be no fear of hardship arising from want of knowledge of the names included in the list."

"I see it is said in the city that opinion is not unanimous. That may well be so, for the city is put to inconvenience in having to change the course of its business, and, naturally, unless the city knows the facts upon which the decision including any particular firm in the statutory list is based, it may sometimes merely be the inconvenience and not the justice or the necessity."

#### All Facts Carefully Weighed.

"All the facts were carefully weighed before the decision was arrived at, and I have no doubt that there is not a name on the list which is not there for a reason which fully justified its inclusion."

Mr. Evans denied that a sub rosa blacklist now exists, the only basis for such a charge, he said, being the fact that certain firms are under suspicion, and British traders, therefore, have been warned to be careful in dealing with them."

Mr. Evans also pointed out that there are hardly more than thirty entities in the American list, one-tenth of the list being occupied by the Knauth, Nachod & Kuhne Company, as including, Zimindorsky, they appear six times; Hermann & Forshay appear six times; Muller, Schall & Co., five times; MacLaren & Gentles, four times, while other firms appear two or more times."

A neutral diplomat regarding the details of the economic war which Great Britain is waging on the Central Powers, declared today that he regarded the recent publication of the blacklist of certain American firms as "the greatest possible tactical blunder at this stage, when America is about to float a new financial arrangement under way there."

#### Calls List Needless.

"It is a blunder," continued the diplomat, "because it is unnecessary, since for months most of the firms on the list have been on a sub rosa blacklist. At any rate, they were not on the list until the government had complete control over any of their operations which touched British territory."

"The financial section of London is by no means unanimous in approval of the measure, even those in its favor being dissatisfied with its scope, contending that some omissions from the list are more significant than inclusions. One large banking institution, for example, maintains close connection with one of London's largest banks and at the request of the latter some time ago made extensive changes in its directorate in order to eliminate the men objectionable to its London correspondent."

"This London bank now wants to know why it is prevented from carrying on its American business through the blacklist, while American firms known to have been actively connected with German loans and other activities are still on the white list."

"Its publication at this time is a mystery. One possible theory is that the government's hand was forced by recalcitrant British firms which may have declined to give up trading with firms not on the white list under threat of the actual promulgation of the list. If the government had desired to warn the British public wider publicity would have been sought."

Published in the official London 'Gazette.' None of the London papers printed it."

## BRITAIN EXPLAINS BLACKLIST ORDER

Ambassador Responds to State Department's Request for Information.

### U. S. PRECEDENT IN CIVIL WAR CITED

Administration Amazed by Outburst of Indignation at England's Decree.

(From The Tribune Bureau.)  
Washington, July 22.—Great Britain, through its Ambassador, replied informally today to the request of the United States for information regarding the operation of the blacklist under which the trade of many American firms has been interrupted. Sir Cecil Spring-Rice called at the State Department and explained the "trading with the enemy act" to Acting Secretary Polk.

Neither President Wilson nor Mr. Polk took their accustomed work off, the latter working at his desk until late in the evening.

While the State Department is busy studying the case, especially precedents relating to it, the resentment aroused by the British decree continues to register itself. Holland has expressed itself as being in sympathy with any move the United States might make, and information has reached the State Department that South American republics and Scandinavian countries are following the developments with the greatest interest.

In even greater degree than the United States has suffered, the commerce of these countries has been restricted. Blacklists have been in operation for months, but the governments have been powerless to interpose any defense.

#### Outburst Amazes Administration.

Administration leaders are amazed at the outburst of indignation throughout the country following the British decree. Although the United States, under international law, has virtually no case against Britain, many of the blacklisted firms having been engaged in unneutral trade, resentment has been widespread.

In the opinion of observers this is significant of a change that has come over the country. While the controversy with Germany was uppermost, British infractions of American rights were passed over with scarcely a protest. Ship seizures were permitted, mail hold-ups allowed and American trade with neutral countries interrupted, and comparatively little complaint was made by the American people.

Then suddenly over a minor point—so far as the law is concerned—a burst of indignation against England broke out. Interpreted by Administration leaders, this means that the country now feels that the Allies have passed the crucial stage of the war and there is no longer any need of straining American neutrality and American

rights to aid them against Germany. There is no less sympathy with the cause of England and France, but it is now time for them to be conscious of American liberty in the past, to be themselves a little more respectful of American rights. Germany has grudgingly yielded her respect for them; they as friends, it is asserted, should do no less."

#### Talk of Retaliation.

Among Congressional leaders there has been talk of "forcing" their observance by means of an embargo or retaliatory legislation of some kind. Such attacks, however—like that made by Senator Thomas, of Colorado, yesterday—are disavowed by the Administration. Its own attitude has been greatly stiffened by the unpopularity of the blacklist, but it is thoroughly confident that the issues can be adjusted by diplomatic means. Besides, it is pointed out, reprisals by means of legislation would only react more strongly against the United States.

Meanwhile, not averse to taking political advantage of the situation, Administration men are doing everything possible to get votes for the ship purchase bill out of the blacklist. Its opponents are pointing out the horrors of a British shipping embargo unless American firms can prove unimpeachable destination for their cargoes. The natural relief for this point of view is government owned ships to form the nucleus for an American merchant marine.

As upholding their case, it is understood that the British have cited American precedents in the Civil War. When the Union blockaded the South many British firms in Nassau and the Bahamas Islands continued to trade with Southern firms. These British companies were promptly blacklisted by the North and London entered no protest.

Now the situation is exactly the reverse, and it is understood the British expect Washington to be equally fair.

### BRITISH SEIZE RAILWAY IN GERMAN EAST AFRICA

Capture Two Towns and Rout Enemy's Forces.

London, July 22.—British troops operating in the northeastern section of German East Africa have occupied Muhesa and Amani and have captured the whole of the Usambara railway, according to an official announcement made today.

The official statement follows: "Lieutenant General Smuts states that the enemy, who attempted to interfere with his communications west of Tanga, has been driven over the Pangani River. The towns of Muhesa and Amani have been captured and the whole of the Usambara railway has been taken."

Along the southern borders of Lake Victoria Nyanza we are pursuing the enemy who escaped from Muanza. We found the German steamers Muanza and Otter Heinrich scuttled in Sukulu Sound. Much booty was taken from the vessels, which can be raised easily and utilized."

The Belgian Colonial Office report of July 3 on operations in East Africa says: "A strong enemy force, which was dislodged by the British occupation of Bukoba and Karagwe (on the west coast of Lake Victoria) found its retreat barred by a much weaker Belgian force, under Major Rouling, near Busi-rumbo, at the southwest corner of Lake Victoria. After a determined fight, in which the bulk of the European Germans were killed or captured, the remnants of the enemy force fled in the direction of Marishi, closely pursued by our force. Herr Godevius, commander of the German column, was among the prisoners taken."

teemen calm themselves. He insisted that the committee had to follow the rule of parliamentary procedure. He did not get far in his speech for peace and harmony, however. He was progressing nicely, when a group of committeemen sought to relieve the monotony by singing "Follow On." A lot more joined them, while some of their colleagues resumed their shouting.

August Schwarzer, chairman of the Bronx County Committee, opined that he was coming to say, and the chairman told him he was out of order. He declared, however, that, regardless of that fact, he intended to keep the floor and that he did not intend to let the meeting be singed by any other officials take it from him.

"This is a Progressive meeting," he shouted, "and I have a right to explain whether I'm in or out of order." Others of the more conservative committee tried to counsel quiet and order, but they were greeted with shouts of "Sit down!" and "Throw him out!" Then the excitement grew to such a point that the chairman was obliged to move the chairman's table and demanded that he vacate. They shook their fists in his face and demanded that he give way to a "real Progressive," who was not controlled by certain interests. The threatening attitude of the committeemen scared Mr. Johnson. He was almost tempted to give up the chair.

**Police Called Upon.**  
"Don't quit," several of the Hughes men shouted. "We will stand by you, regardless of what happens." This gave Johnson a little courage, but a moment later, when the anti-Hughes men grew threatening again, he asked Virgil K. Kelly of W. Wetmore, who sat at his side advising him, "Shall I send for the police?"

"I think you had better," Judge Kellogg answered. "The table and the Hughes men mounted the table and shouted a motion to adjourn for something to eat. This sounded good to the tired out disturbers and it was passed with a whoop."

Ex-Assemblyman Michael Schaap, of New York, who did not like the way the motion was put, rushed over to the chairman and demanded the gavel. "Don't give it to him," shouted Mr. Hotchkiss, who believed that Schaap was going to call the meeting to order again for some particular purpose. Not deterred, Schaap pounded on the table with his fist and after a little order he was announced that the adjournment was only until 8 o'clock.

#### Bad Temper at Start.

The bad temper of the committeemen manifested itself just as soon as Walter Johnson, chairman of the committee, called the meeting to order. He had the sound of his gavel directed out on their feet. They took their seats when told that the formality of a roll-call was necessary.

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**Committeemen in a Riot.**  
For an hour and a half after Chairman Johnson had sustained Judge Ransom the anti-Hughes men threatened, shouted and jeered. The Hughes men joined in, too, but in a milder way.

At one time a dozen or more committeemen stood in front of the table of Chairman Johnson shaking their fists and calling him a weakling. Groups of the anti-Hughes men were scattered around the floor heatedly discussing the merits and the demerits of the ruling of the chairman, while several of the more extreme of the committeemen slipped out of the hall.

Several of the committeemen tried to speak, but they were shouted down. Men tried to get recognition from the chairman, but his whole attention was given to pounding the gavel. He soon gave this up as a bad job. Once he told a committeeman that he wouldn't recognize him, and the committeemen immediately walked over to the chairman and shook his first in his face.

O'Connell and Hotchkiss conferred. Finally William H. Hotchkiss and John J. O'Connell got together in front of the chairman, and after conferring for several minutes order was restored. Mr. O'Connell urged that the commit-

## EXPORTER FIGHTS BRITISH BOYCOTT

W. L. Harris, Cotton Merchant, Says State Department Refused Aid.

### AVERS BLACKLIST WRONGS NEUTRALS

Americans Organize New Firms with English Associates for Overseas Trade.

W. L. Harris, head of the cotton exporting firm of Harris, Irby & Vose, of 18 William Street, one of the American concerns placed on the blacklist by the British government, said yesterday that he had sought relief at Washington and had been told by the State Department that the blacklist, being a commercial matter, was beyond the scope of the department.

"We addressed a letter to the British Embassy, seeking justice," said Mr. Harris. "This letter was not even answered. In consequence of being on the blacklist our foreign financial documents are denied standing and recognition in England. We are not only denied cable communication with Europe, but our money is held from Europe is confiscated by England. As a result of these conditions American bankers fear to have anything to do with documents bearing our name."

"An order has been issued by the British government that before a shipment can be made from America to any destination there must be obtained from the British Consul a certificate to the effect that no ownership or interest in such goods is vested directly or indirectly in any one on the blacklist, regardless of whether such interests lie in American citizens."

**Gives Monopoly to Britain.**  
"The inevitable result of this procedure is to place a virtual monopoly of all overseas trade in the hands of Great Britain, thereby denying all neutral merchants the right to trade directly with each other and forcing such trade, which rightfully belongs to American citizens, to be done through the medium of British merchants."

"Great Britain has only to put all American firms on her blacklist to force all American cotton exporters out of business and take to herself all overseas trade in one of our greatest commodities, cotton. If it is the purpose of our government to acquiesce in this condition, then we can see nothing to do but discharge our many employees and close up our business. If as American citizens we are entitled to any rights or consideration, we feel that our government should immediately request Great Britain to abate this condition."

Nothing definite has yet been accomplished in the forty or fifty blacklisted business men who attended Friday's meeting of protest in the offices of the Chamber of Commerce-American Commerce, Inc., of 11 Broadway.

It is not likely that any plan will be adopted until the chairman has named the committee of five provided for in resolutions. This committee will confer immediately with the secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, and a visit to Washington for consultation with Secretary Lansing and Attorney General Gregory probably will follow.

#### No Action Taken by U. S. Chamber.

Mark Prentiss, a field worker of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, who was reported to have attended Friday's meeting, said yesterday that he was in the presence all day and that the chamber had no representative at the gathering. Official action cannot be taken by the chamber, Prentiss said, until it is brought to the attention of the board of directors by two or more member organizations.

Reports of the organization of more British-American firms to replace firms which originally were backed by German capital or German influence are current yesterday. Several of these new firms, composed of Englishmen and Americans whose firms have been blacklisted, are to open their offices to-morrow. One of these firms is reported to have been incorporated in Delaware last week with a capital of \$250,000 and to have in its membership two Englishmen and two Americans, the latter formerly members of blacklisted firms.

Heinrich Kell, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce-American Commerce, issued a statement yesterday declaring that Germany does not lose one cent in trade or money through the British order in the blacklist, but that the British order is directed mainly against American trade with South America and the Far East.

## CHINESE LEADERS QUIT UNDER FIRE

Two Financial Advisers of Old Cabinet Out—Premier Criticized.

Peking, June 20.—Chinese public opinion has been in a curious, unbalanced state since the death of Yuan Shih-kai.

Every day it becomes clearer that many of the leaders of the revolution have been in the south, who declared Yuan Shih-kai's reign as the chief end of their efforts. They have personal ambitions, and are not giving Li Yuan-hung the support which might reasonably be expected of them. Many of the provinces have refused to recognize the new government, and demands are being made upon the President almost daily by political leaders in the rebellious provinces.

Liang Shi-yi and Chow Tzu-chi, the two members of the government who have had most to do with finances in China, have resigned under fire. The former was head of the financial council and director general of the Bank of Communications. Both were close advisers of Yuan Shih-kai and are regarded by foreigners as two of the ablest leaders in China.

Liang Shi-yi has been the storm center of criticism for many months. The board of directors has made an adverse report on his administration, charging misfeasance and malfeasance in office. He is accused of various financial irregularities and is blamed for the shortage of hard money which made necessary the suspension of specie payments on the notes of the Bank of Communications and the Bank of China.

Chow Tzu-chi, the Premier, is also attacked by the republican press and charged with an unwillingness to have President Li Yuan-hung issue a mandate restoring the old National Provisional Assembly. While bitter criticism has not been directed as yet toward President Li Yuan-hung, there are many rumblings in the press concerning his failure to take the necessary steps to eliminate all the Yuan Shih-kai crowd from the government. He has inherited a depleted treasury and a thoroughly disorganized government.

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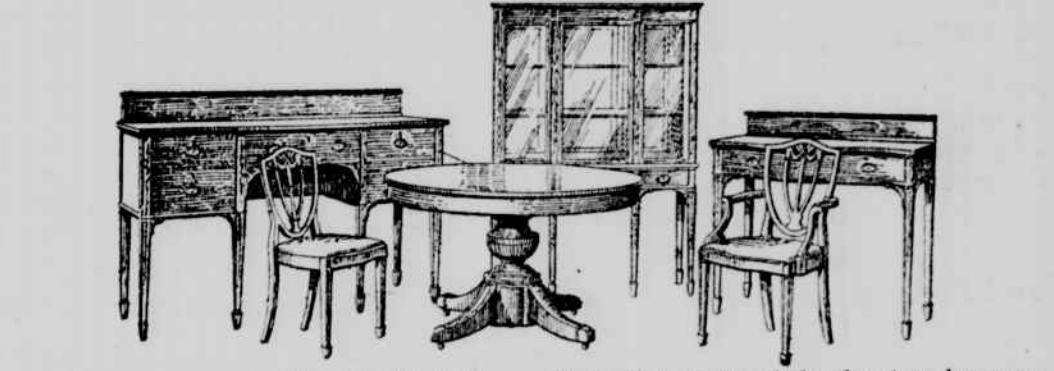
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1 Four-piece Enamel Suite.....	183.00	formerly 366.00
1 Four-piece Colonial Suite.....	237.50	formerly 475.00
1 Five-piece Inlaid Sheraton Suite.....	295.00	formerly 590.00
1 Four-piece Inlaid Sheraton Suite.....	227.50	formerly 455.00
1 Five-piece Adam Suite.....	575.00	formerly 1,150.00
Mahogany Four-post Beds.....	25.00	formerly 50.00
12 Mahogany Bureaus.....	45.00	regularly 90.00
Mahogany Twin Beds.....	50.00	regularly 100.00
Walnut Twin Beds.....	37.50	regularly 75.00
Mahogany Toilet Tables.....	19.50	regularly 39.00
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Round Scalloped Damask Table Cloths.....	each 3.95, 4.75 and 5.75	regularly 4.75, 6.00 and 7.00
Hemstitched Linen Damask Table Cloths.....	each 3.75, 4.75 and 5.75	regularly 4.75, 6.00 and 7.00
Pure Irish Linen Sheets, Hemstitched.....	pair 7.50, 9.50 and 12.50	regularly 10.50, 12.50 and 15.00
Pure Irish Linen Pillow Cases, Hemstitched.....	pair 1.50, 2.00 and 2.50	regularly 2.00, 2.75 and 3.50
Hemmed Huck Towels.....	doz. 1.75, 2.75 and 3.75	
Hemstitched Huck Towels.....	doz. 3.00, 3.75 and 4.50	
Bleached Turkish Bath Towels.....	doz. 2.40, 3.00 and 4.50	
Turkish Bath Mats, washable.....	each 50c, 75c and 1.00	
Hemmed Glass Towels.....	doz. 1.95, 2.45 and 3.75	
Hemmed Dish Towels.....	doz. 1.45, 1.75 and 2.25	
Glass and Kitchen Towels with woven name.....	doz. 2.75	

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